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WHAT IS ETHNIC STUDIES AND WHY IT IS  
IMPORTANT FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

ETHNIC STUDIES is about you and me and our parents and grandparents and great grandparents - the people who have made Hawaii what it is today. ETHNIC STUDIES is about Hawaiians from the point of view of Hawaiians - not from the point of view of foreigners. ETHNIC STUDIES is about other local people - Filipino, Samoan, Portuguese, Chinese, Japanese - from their own point of view.

ETHNIC STUDIES is about the history of all local people and also about the history of other people who live in the Pacific islands. There is much that we in Hawaii can learn about our brothers and sisters who live beyond Hawaii.

But ETHNIC STUDIES is not simply about our history. ETHNIC STUDIES also deals with what is happening to us today - poverty, poor education, land and housing rip offs, the tourist industry, the future of the Hawaiian people. ETHNIC STUDIES deals with our past, our present, and our future.

ETHNIC STUDIES is the kind of new program which tries to make sense of our past and our present so that we can better understand ourselves - to find out what we are for ourselves and not what others say we are.

The ETHNIC STUDIES program as a whole aims to make the education of our youth attending the University more connected with our everyday lives. For too long the University has ignored local people and their problems. But the ETHNIC STUDIES program does not begin and end at the University.

The Director of the ETHNIC STUDIES program and the staff that he wants are anxious to have ethnic studies taught in elementary, intermediate, and secondary schools throughout this whole State. Our kids should be taught about their ethnic history from grade school - not just from when they go to the University. The ETHNIC STUDIES program also wants to begin to offer ethnic studies courses out in the community where people like you and me live so that these people do not have to go to where the Professors are on the University campus.

At the present time the ETHNIC STUDIES program has a total of ten courses. There is one course on each of Hawaii's principal ethnic groups, one course on ethnic identity, one course called Hawaii and the Pacific, one course on training local students how to do research, and one course called "Movements for Social Change in Hawaii." This last course will be taught entirely by people from the community.

In the Summer of 1973 the Program plans to have a special project mainly for school teachers (but open also to other people) because we realize how important it is to begin to train teachers to teach ethnic studies in elementary, intermediate, and high schools.

The ETHNIC STUDIES program also will have a special Curriculum Development and Resource Collection Unit which will carry out research related to what is going on in Hawaii now and about the history of local people.

The ETHNIC STUDIES program is especially interested in working with Hawaiian students who are in College and High School and who should be made interested in going into College level teaching. Remember, there have been almost no Hawaiian scholars on the University of Hawaii Manoa campus since it was started in 1907. It is time that we had more Hawaiians teaching at the College level. If ES starts now, in ten years we will have some results to show. To delay now is to delay forever.

The University of Hawaii spends \$108 million a year. The ETHNIC STUDIES program is asking for just \$210,000 - less than one quarter of one per cent of the total UH budget!

We have a Hawaiian Director who wants a strong program. To have a strong Program he needs a strong faculty and enough money to have the program he wants. Money without the proper faculty is no good; good faculty and enough money go together. For more than 50 years local people have supported their State University generously with their taxes. For more than 50 years local people have been silent about what happens at their State University. They can no longer be silent.

THE ETHNIC STUDIES PROGRAM IS TOO IMPORTANT TO BE SILENT ABOUT.

TO WIN THE NEXT STAGE OF THE ETHNIC STUDIES STRUGGLE WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.